

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 713*

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 0145

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: SOUTHWEST PREFEASIBILITY/FEASIBILITY STUDY

REFS: (A) STATE 000514; (B) STATE 246149; (C) STATE 242678

(D) TOAID A-145

FOLLOWING RESPONSE KEYED AID/W COMMENTS REF (C):

1.A. TIMING. MISSION, MINAG CONCUR AID/W PROPOSAL ADVERTISE FOR PROFIT/NON-PROFIT CONTRACTOR WITH CAVEAT THAT MINAG IS ABLE CONCUR IN LIST INTERESTED CONTRACTORS INVITED SUBMIT DETAILED PROPOSALS AND IN FINAL CONTRACTOR SELECTION. FYI: AS AID/W AWARE, SENIOR MINAG OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS BASED ON EXPERIENCE TO DATE OF ABILITY CERTAIN U.S. CONTRACTORS TO RECRUIT QUALIFIED PERSONNEL ON A TIMELY BASIS. END FYI.

MISSION, MINAG ALSO AGREEABLE MID-APRIL START FOR PHASE I, WITH PHASE II TO FOLLOW AS SOON AFTER 1974 LONG RAINS AS TRANSPORT CONDITIONS PERMIT.

1.B. BEARING IN MIND THAT MINAG HAS SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME DEVELOPING THE PROPOSAL TO THIS STAGE, INCLUDING A FIELD RECONNAISSANCE OF THE AREAS CONCERNED, MISSION, MINAG WOULD OF COURSE WELCOME ANY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PHASE II WHICH WERE TO EMERGE FROM PRE-FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS.

1.C. CONCUR, SUBJECT TO CAVEAT IN PARA ONE ABOVE.

1.D. EXPERTISE TO REVIEW HEALTH, EDUCATION, MALARIA ASPECTS AVAILABLE LOCALLY IN ETHIOPIA. MISSION IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF PROVIDING MODEST AMOUNT OF FUNDS TO CONTRACTOR TO COVER AT LEAST

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PART OF COSTS OF LOCAL EMPLOYMENT OR USE THESE PERSONNEL. HOW-

EVER, WE MINDFUL OF POSSIBLE APPLICABILITY TO FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF NEW CONGRESSIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR 25 PERCENT HOST COUNTRY CONTRIBUTION. REQUEST AID/W CONFIRM WHETHER OR NOT THIS CONGRESSIONAL REQUIREMENT APPLIES TO FEASIBILITY STUDIES. WE WOULD HAVE TO ADVISE IEG ASAP TO ENABLE MINAG TO ADJUST ITS FY 74 AND 75 BUDGET PROPOSALS ACCORDINGLY.

THE ISSUE RAISED REF (A) WE AGREE THAT STUDY OF POTENTIAL RESETTLERS NEEDS TO BE INCORPORATED IN TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR STUDY. WE WISH, HOWEVER, DEFER DECISION ON APPROPRIATENESS OF RECRUITING U.S. SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGIST PENDING REVIEW OF POSSIBLE AVAILABILITY SUCH EXPERTISE IN ETHIOPIA. IN OUR VIEW PERSON SELECTED MUST HAVE INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF AREA AND POPULATIONS INVOLVED. WILL ADVISE AID/W PRIOR END PHASE I.

1.E. AGRONOMIC AND AG ECONOMIC EXPERTISE IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE IN USAID/E IN PERSONS SUDHOLT AND EUBANKS. WE ANTICIPATE BOTH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PHASE I BUT THEIR STATUS DURING PHASE II NOT YET FINALLY DECIDED. SUGGEST THAT CONTRACTOR BE ADVISED THAT HE MAY BE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE AGRONOMIST-PULSES AND AG MARKETING SPECIALIST FOR PHASE II. FINAL DETERMINATION TO BE MADE NO LATER THAN APRIL.

1.F. SUITABLE ETHIOPIAN TRANSPORTATION ECONOMIST NOT AVAILABLE.

1.G. JOHN BRUCE WILL BE EMPLOYED BY THE MLRA FROM APPROXIMATELY APRIL THROUGH OCTOBER AND CANNOT BE ASSIGNED TO SOUTHWEST STUDY. HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE INFORMALLY FOR CONSULTANCY ON INTERMITTENT BASIS.

2. MINAG INFORMED CONTRACT WILL BE DIRECT AID CONTRACT. NO CHANGES CONTEMPLATED IN SCOPE OF WORK OR SITE LOCATIONS AT THIS TIME.

3. PLEASE PROCEED WITH OBTAINING APPROVAL FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY ASAP AND ADVISE. ADAIR

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